



**HAMILTON**  
**AGRONOMY**

One of the most important things  
we help grow is trust.

## WORDS TO GROW BY...

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### Healthy Wheat – Hamilton Coaches Growers to Winning Results!

Fertility, weed control and managing fungus are three keys to a winning wheat crop game plan, and Hamilton Agronomists encourage growers to understand each of the options impacting their winter wheat crop potential. Provided in the table are a variety of Hamilton Agronomy recommendations for wheat fertility, weed control and fungicides. We're pleased to offer support in determining the optimal management program for your wheat crop, and pricing information is available at your request.

### Assessing Winter Injury on Wheat

Many growers have asked about winter injury. It typically takes a number of warm days after freezing to determine the crops' condition. The main tillers may be killed or injured but other tillers may survive – helping the plant compensate for some lost yield potential.

A number of factors help determine how much freeze injury there could be to a winter wheat crop – including air temperature, soil moisture, stand, canopy density and the winter wheat growth stage. Others include the length of time of the low temperature, wind speed and field gradient. Hamilton Agronomists suggest careful crop evaluation before making any spraying decisions or before choosing to plant another crop. We'll be happy to look at the crop with you.

### New Fertilizer Additives Offer Growers Options

A number of fertilizer additives have been introduced recently which promote more efficient use of plant nutrients. Agrotain has been on the market for a number of years and protects the nitrogen in surface-applied urea from volatilization due to urease enzymatic processes. Nutrisphere-N was introduced last year, and it not only inhibits this enzymatic process, but also the conversion of the ammonium ion to the leachable nitrate ion, creating a more controlled release nitrogen source. These products may be options to consider if applying urea to no-till crops, orchards and plantations, particularly in warmer temperatures (>60°F) and under dry conditions. Ask your Hamilton Agronomist for more information.

### Hamilton Wheat Program

<b>Fertility</b>	1 Pass Program	70/30 blend of urea and amm. Sulfate – 155 lbs/acre=60 lbs N
	2 Pass Program	70/30/blend of urea and amm. Sulfate – 130/lbs/acre=50 lbs N
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Pass CORON	2 gallons/acre – 6 lbs actual N
<b>Weed Control</b>	Harmony Total	.75 oz/acre
	Harmony Peak	.50 oz/acre – only in corn rotation
	Plus AMS and NIS	
<b>Fungicide</b>	Quilt	10 oz./acre
	Early – Feekes 3 to 7	Can be mixed with herbicide program
<b>Headscab</b>	Proline	5 oz./acre
	Early flowering to Feekes10.5	Scouting critical



## **New Delivery Trucks Speed Products to YOU!**

Hamilton Agronomists have new delivery trucks at both the North and South offices. These trucks are ready to make deliveries to customers on a scheduled basis. Sales Manager Mark Vander Werff said, "The new trucks really help us get the product to you in a timely manner. We will begin making scheduled deliveries of packaged crop protection products to customers immediately."

## **Weather Resource**

**Enviroweather** is a website providing real-time weather based information to help in management decisions. Weather, disease and insect prediction reports will be updated hourly.  
[www.enviroweather.msu.edu/](http://www.enviroweather.msu.edu/)

## **Beehive Placement Tips**

Correct beehive placement and density is critical to good, healthy yield. Hamilton Agronomists remind growers of some standard rules of thumb. Recommended density of honeybee hives per acre is:

- 1-3 hives/acre for apple and pear orchards
- 2-3 hives/acre for sweet cherry and Balaton® tart cherry
- 1 hive/acre for Montmorency tart cherry, plum and peach orchards

Hamilton Agronomist Creela Hamlin said, "Working with university specialists and orchard growers, we keep current on new research and recommendations important to growers. MSU Horticulturalist Dr. Nikki Rothwell recommends that newer, higher density apple plantings, with a single cultivar interplanted with a few pollenizers, may require more bees per acre than the older, multi-variety traditional plantings. Also, university research urges higher bee rates in sweets where one non-self fertile variety represents 76% or more of the planting." Hamlin said blueberries typically require 2-4 hives per acre.

Remember that pallets of bees should be spread to minimize flight to flowers. A sunny location with a maximum of 300 yards between colonies is ideal. Also, Hamilton Agronomists remind you to please be very careful with sprays in your orchards and fields as we work to protect the bee colonies.

## **Oblique Banded Leaf Rollers Damage Apples, Peaches**

A major pest to apples and peaches, the Oblique Banded Leaf Rollers (OBLR) overwinter as immature larvae. Early in the growing season, these brown or green worms feed on floral buds, blossoms and leaves. When full grown, the larvae seal up the leaf shelter, form a glossy brown cocoon and undergo metamorphosis. One to two weeks later, they emerge from the shelter. The adults range from brown to yellow in color and are about 2 inches long.

OBLR gouge deeply into young fruit and can result in unmarketable fruit for fresh market, predisposition to other pests and disease, and/or over 50% crop losses. Hamilton Agronomists recommend carefully monitoring now to determine if you may need to treat. For recommendations on what products are available for your fruit crops, contact your Hamilton Agronomist today – **and remember new label changes for Guthion®**. Guthion® is a registered trademark of Bayer CropScience. Always read and follow label instructions when using any pesticide.



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